



Books for the Holidays

Discovering local authors and intriguing books.

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Merry Christmas!

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

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Holiday Concerts

Schools celebrate the Winter Break!

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The Bradford Times

www.bradfordtimes.ca

\$1.50 GST Included

Thursday, December 25, 2014



Giving, and getting

Photo and story by Miriam King, Bradford Times

James, a student at Mother Teresa Catholic School, donated a bear to the Coats for Kids Adopt-a-Bear campaign - and won Jack the 5' tall Bear.

It's a giving time of year, in Bradford West Gwillimbury....

Just before Christmas, Bradford Coats for Kids president Phillip MacFadden, son of founder Jack MacFadden, sent out a call to area schools, asking kids to donate their "spare bears", so that children coming to the Coats for Kids Depot to find warm winterwear, could also find a new friend to take home.

The response was overwhelming, especially from Mother

Teresa Catholic School. Kids donated 17 bags filled with cuddly stuffed animals of all kinds, to be given to children in need.

Every child who made a donation - whether it was a single bear, or 10 - received a ballot on a draw for a giant teddy bear, donated by Winners in Newmarket. Nicknamed

see GIVING Page 3

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Free Home Evaluations

Free Boxing Day Dinner

Last year, a new tradition began in Bradford – a wonderful Christmas Dinner, offered free of charge. The event was made possible thanks to local businessman Munwar Chudary, Bradford United Church, and the local Ahmadiyya Muslim Community organizations, Humany First Canada and Run for Bradford.

Chudary has taken the initiative again this year, partnering with Bradford United Church and the BWG Community Initiatives to serve a Boxing Day Dinner on Friday, December 26 at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. at 5:30 p.m.

Chudary has launched a new charity – We Are For Our Community – which has the motto, Show You Care with Acts of Kindness. The volunteers with the Group are not only serving up this special meal to all looking for food and fellowship, they will also be providing a "day off" for the dedicated volunteers of BWG Community Meal.

All are welcome to come, bring a friend, and be part of this expression of joy and generosity. For more information, contact 904-731-5335 or Rev. Jim Keenan at revkeenan@gmail.com.

Appointments to Committees

Bradford West Gwillimbury Council has appointed Councillors Gary Lamb and Hej Sandhu, Deputy Mayor James Leduc, and Mayor Rob Keffer to the "Striking Committee" that will sort through applications from the public, and approve appointments to Town Committees and Independent Boards.

Council also appointed Councillor Ron Orr to represent the Town at the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority; Councillor Peter Ferraige to sit at the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority; and Councillor Peter Dykx Jr. to represent the municipality on the South Simcoe Streets Network.

Other committee appointments will be made at a later date – but Council voted to move forward with re-establishing an Active Transportation & Recreation Committee, Downtown Revitalization Committee, and Municipal Heritage Committee – all of which were dissolved, with the end of the previous term of Council. The Town will begin advertising for members from the public.

"Those are the... Committees we absolutely have to have," said Deputy Mayor James Leduc. Leduc also recommended the immediate establishment of a Seniors Housing Committee, but Councillor Gary Lamb suggested waiting for the Strategic Planning session. "It's a really big issue, but it needs to be done right."

Both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will represent the Town at the County of Simcoe; and the Mayor has already been sworn in as a member of the

Police Services Board.

There may be other Committees of Council established. "There's a lot of ideas, of ways to get people involved... but we have to be cognizant of staff time," said Mayor Keffer, referring to use of Town staff as support.

The Town has proposed a 2015 budget of \$2000 for general committee expenses, \$10,000 for the BWG

Accessibility Advisory Committee, and \$5,000 for the Municipal Heritage Committee.

Since the Heritage Committee was dissolved with the end of the last municipal term of office, Town Council voted to approve participation in the 2015 Doors Open Ontario event, and authorized payment of the \$1695 registration fee.

New use for the Old High School?

The Simcoe County District School Board has declared the older portion of the original Fred C. Cook Public School – the "Old Bradford High School," declared a Heritage Site by the Town of Bradford West

been designated by the Municipality as a Heritage property, so this may impact the proposed use of the lands and building by a purchaser.

Bradford West Gwillimbury Council will have first right of refusal of the

property, as surplus to the Board, and plans to dispose of the building.

The SCDSB has sent a notice of the availability of the property to a list of potentially interested



public agencies, in accordance with the Education Act. The agencies then have 90 days to indicate whether they are interested in purchasing the property at "fair market value." If the agencies show no interest, the building will be available for purchase "at fair market value by any interested party," indicated Janet Porter, Senior Planner at the SCDSB. "The site has

property. Mayor Rob Keffer asked that a heritage expert tour the old high school, to "determine the opportunities" for its re-use, possibly as Seniors' housing, condos or offices. "That would be very interesting and helpful to Council."

Council voted to ask for "a full report and evaluation from our Director of Planning."

Noted Deputy Mayor James Leduc, "We have until February 17. I think it just needs to stay within our stock."

Photo: Classic facade of the old Bradford High School, while still in use as part of Fred C. Cook P.S.

Christmas Tree Collection



Consult your **2015 Waste Management Calendar**, or the waste collection calendar tool at simcoe.ca to determine your Christmas tree collection weeks.

- Christmas trees must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on Monday of your collection week
- Collection will occur during the week; not necessarily on your garbage day
- Remove plastic tree bags, decorations, and stands
- Maximum size 2 m; if longer, cut into smaller sections
- Ensure your tree is clearly visible and not frozen into snowbanks

Does not apply to residents of Barrie and Orillia



County of Simcoe Customer Service
1-800-263-3199 / simcoe.ca

AMJ praised for role in Ebola fight

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has praised the Ahmadiyya Muslim community for leading the fight against Ebola.

At the annual fundraising dinner for Humanity First Canada, a humanitarian relief organization operated by the AMJ, Prime Minister Harper thanked the community for fundraising, to help prevent the spread of Ebola in Africa. He also thanked the community for its swift condemnation of the attacks on Canadian Military personnel, and for helping to

counteract Youth radicalization in Canada.

The December 5 dinner started with a silent prayer for the more than 17,000 persons infected with Ebola, and the 6,000 killed so far in the outbreak, led by National President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Lal Khan Malik. Malik also presented a \$50,000 donation from the AMJ, to help support the fight against Ebola. "It is an honour to join Humanity First Canada in celebrating 10 years of important charitable work around

the world," Prime Minister Harper said. "I am pleased that they have joined international efforts to fight Ebola, and that the proceeds from tonight's dinner will go towards responding to the outbreak in West Africa."



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Photo and story by Miriam King, Bradford Times

Anne Stubley (centre), Executive Director of Blue Door Shelters, receives donation from Royal LePage At Your Service Realty Sales Reps, Wayne Sproule and Kathy Kirschner - just in time for Christmas.

A Christmas gift for Blue Door

Blue Door Shelters received a special gift, just before Christmas, from Bradford's Royal LePage At Your Service Realty.

Realtors presented Anne Stubley, Executive Director of Blue Door, with a cheque for \$3,255.57 - the proceeds of the company's inaugural Golf Tournament.

Elechia Barry Sproule, Broker of Record at Royal LePage At Your Service, with a cheque for \$3,255.57 - the proceeds of the company's inaugural Golf Tournament.

It's a donation that is much needed, and couldn't come at a better time, said Stubley. Blue Door operates three shelters - one for Youth, in Newmarket; and two in East Gwillimbury, off Yonge St., Porter Place for Men, and Leeder Place for Families. Clients are homeless or at risk of homelessness - and can stay up to 4 weeks, at Porter or Leeder Place, or 4 months at the Youth Shelter.

"We serve about 1,500 people a year. We are able to find permanent housing for about 500," said Stubley. "Unfortunately, we have been turning away 6,000 calls for a place to stay every year, for the last few years."

Guests range in age from newborns, "to people in their 90s. They just simply don't have enough money to make ends meet. They just need a bit of assistance for a short period of time, to help get them to the place they want to be." Stubley added - noting that the hardest part for staff is having to turn away desperate calls.

Right now, the 15 rooms in the Family Shelter are all full. "We have probably about 90 people, at the moment," using the emergency shelter.

Stubley thanked Royal LePage for the cheque, and for their collection of used clothing, over the past few months, to assist Blue Door residents.

"We will put this to phenomenal use," she said - also thanking the community for their support, at this time of the year, in providing toys, winter boots, gift cards and other items.

"It's so valued and so appreciated - and we really have come to rely on them, because there isn't enough to go around."

For more information on Blue Door Shelters, see www.bluedoorshelters.ca or call 905-898-1015.

Battery Collection success

During the week of November 3 to 7, residents were invited to recycle their single-use batteries, and keep them out of landfills.

The County of Simcoe mailed out special collection bags to every resident, asking that only single-use batteries - not rechargeable or industrial batteries - be sealed inside,

and the bag placed at curbside, beside the blue bin.

The County is calling the one-time collection a "huge success," with over 20,000 kg of batteries - an estimated half a million batteries - being diverted from landfill, and sent for recycling.

Giving, and getting at Mother Teresa School

GIVING from Page 1

"Jack," the big bear was a thank-you gift for the children's generosity.

The winner was drawn on Dec. 18, and on Friday - the last day of school - before the winter break - Phil MacFadden presented the prize to Mother Teresa Catholic School Grade 3 student

James, in front of his whole class.

It was a perfect example of giving, sharing, and receiving, in the Christmas spirit.

The Coats for Kids Depot in the St. Mary's "A" Hall, off Frederick St., is closed for the Holidays, reopening on Tuesday, Jan. 6 from 1 to 3 p.m. Emergency? Contact Phillip, 905-715-5883.

Waste Management Information

Christmas & New Years



WASTE COLLECTIONS

Regular day:

Thursday, December 25, 2014
Friday, December 26, 2014
Thursday, January 1, 2015
Friday, January 2, 2015

Changing to:

Friday, December 26, 2014
Saturday, December 27, 2014
Friday, January 2, 2015
Saturday January 3, 2015

WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES HOURS

Waste facilities will be closed at noon:

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Waste facilities will be closed all day:

Thursday, December 25, 2014
Friday, December 26, 2014
Thursday, January 1, 2015



Sign up for garbage reminders and notices at:
simcoe.ca/wastereminder



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
County of Simcoe Customer Service
1-800-263-3199 / simcoe.ca

comment

The
Bradford Times

www.bradfordtimes.ca

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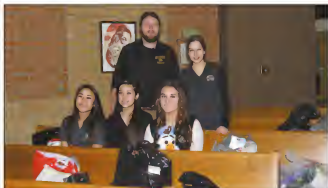
SANDY DAVIES, Regional Publisher/Advertising Director. sandy.davies@summedia.ca

MIRIAM KING Editor 905-775-4471, ex. 512223 miriam.king@summedia.ca

DELLA WHITLAM, Classified 905-775-4471, ex. 512224 della.whitlam@summedia.ca

GARY ASSIS, ad sales 905-775-4471, ex. 512222 gary.assis@summedia.ca

Toy Drive at Holy Trinity



Submitted photo

Jerome MacGregor and students in Grades 9 and 12, with some of the donations for Holy Trinity Catholic High School's annual Toy Drive.

By Daniela Sosa

Every child deserves to wake up Christmas morning and find a toy under the tree. As Christmas approaches, Holy Trinity Catholic High School helps to make this possible for children in the Bradford community through their annual Christmas Toy Drive. All donations from the drive go to families in need during the Christmas season, who may not have the funds to purchase presents for their children.

The Drive began on December 1 and ended December 16. Each classroom was assigned a family, through the Helping Hand Food Bank, and all of the students contributed money or toys to give "their" family a Merry Christmas. The school also provides food

baskets to the families, as well as other essentials they may need

"In giving we also receive, and because to those who have been given much, much is expected," said school chaplain Jerome MacGregor. Holy Trinity has participated in the Toy drive for approximately 20 years, with strong participation from its students each year.

"It has been in the school much longer than I have, and I think it's a great way to get more involved in helping others," said one Grade 12 student.

Holy Trinity Catholic High School hopefully will continue the tradition, of delivering a memorable Christmas to families in need, for many years to come.



Branch Manager at Scotiabank in Bradford, David Trace and staff held a Bake Sale on Dec. 19, to raise money for the Breakfast Program at St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic elementary school in Bradford - with home-made squares and treats for \$2, Gingerbread Men for \$1. Customers helped decorate the branch's Christmas Tree, "buying" decorations of different sizes with their donations; the money raised also went to help provide a nutritious breakfast to all of the students at the school, several times a week. Bake Sale organizer, Sandra Romero-Adam, left, volunteers

letters to the editor

Thank you for Christmas

To the Editor: My family and I would sincerely like to thank CrossTrainers/A Hand Up and the families who sponsored our wish lists for Christmas this year. Also, to all the volunteers at the Christmas Dinner, thank you - it was a great meal.

My family is grateful for all you did for us this Christmas. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pam deForest & Family

Thanks to the Christmas Elves

To the Editor: On behalf of the residents and Residents Council at Bradford Valley, I would like to extend my heart-felt thank you to the local "Christmas Elves." Their amazing contribution to Christmas this year is sure to brighten the lives of many of the residents at Bradford Valley.

The Christmas Elves is a group of friends who have been helping to support residents at Simcoe Manor in Beeton for the last few years around Christmas, ensuring everyone has something to open on Christmas morning, and that all feel the Christmas spirit.

Bradford Valley was contacted earlier this year, as the Christmas Elves have grown in numbers, and wanted to help support more Seniors in the community. Their initiative has grown to include Homes from King City, Newmarket, Bradford, Toronto, and Beeton.

We prepared a list of residents, along with a few items they would really like, and the

Christmas Elves took it from there.

The gifts arrived at Bradford Valley, and it truly rendered us all speechless. The outpouring of support love and compassion that we have felt because of the Christmas Elves is second to none. All wish list items were provided for our residents, neatly wrapped and packaged, to be enjoyed on Christmas morning.

The Christmas Elves choose to remain anonymous, so we hope they are reading this. Every single person who has helped with this initiative has helped to better the lives and experiences of the residents at Bradford Valley, and we cannot express our gratitude enough. Thank you to everyone involved, and Merry Christmas!

P.S. If you would like to be involved next year, I know they are always looking for help. Search "Christmas Elves" on Facebook for details.

Branda Laur, President
Bradford Valley Residents' Council

CONTACT Community Services looking for Volunteers

CONTACT Community Services is looking for Board Members - volunteers who want to make a difference in their community.

CONTACT is currently seeking energetic and committed individuals with diverse backgrounds to serve on the Board of Directors. CONTACT Community Services has a 35 year history of strengthening the communities of South Simcoe, through Employment, Housing, and Youth Engagement. The non-profit, registered charity works to ensure everyone has employment, a home and a future.

For more information, on CONTACT or volunteering as a member of the Board, contact Sandra Mawby, Co-Executive Director, at sandra@contactsouthsimcoe.ca or 705-435-4900.

Correction

In an article on the Reopening of Downtown Bradford Dental, in the November 20, 2014 edition of The Bradford Times, the name of the late Dr. Shariene Barton was misspelled. The Times sincerely apologizes for the error, and assures readers that no disrespect was intended.

New Year's at the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre

The Danube Seniors Leisure Centre is located at 715 Simcoe Rd. south of Bradford. For information on programs and events at the Centre, call 905-775-0612 - or visit danubeseniorcentre.webs.com

Most programs are taking a break for the Holidays, and the Centre will be closed on all Statutory Holidays with the exception of the annual New Year's Eve, held by the President and Executive, on Thursday, January 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Centre. Drop in to chat, and enjoy free refreshments!

PROBUS Club meets

Bradford's Probus Club 2, a social club for Retired and semi-retired Professionals and Business people, will be meeting on Wednesday, January 21 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, from 10 a.m. to noon. The guest speaker will be Marc Terrance of CHATS (Community & Home Assistance [to Seniors]), providing an overview of the agency. Coffee, tea and treats will be available, and new members are welcomed.

For more information, call Jill Sanderson, 705-290-0099, or Joanne MacLeod, 905-551-0942. The church is located at 2940 Sideroad 10.

Blood Donor Clinic

St. John's Presbyterian Church is hosting a Blood Donor Clinic on Thursday, December 30, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the church, 2940 Sideroad 10. Please contact Canadian Blood Services to book an appointment to give blood, at www.blood.ca or 1-888-2-DONATE, and give the gift of life.

Community Ride for Srs.

The new volunteer group, We Are For Our Community, is launching a "Community Ride" for Seniors, starting January 1. We Are For Our Community Volunteers will be providing courtesy rides - from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday - for Seniors who live in areas without bus services, and lack the resources for other types of transportation.

To book a ride, Seniors can call 1-855-786-4294, at least 24 hours before the requested ride. Volunteers are also needed!

Emergency Preparedness for Seniors

Ice storms. Tornadoes. Flooding. Ontario residents have had to face all kinds of emergencies - and the Emergency Management Team at the BWG Fire & Emergency Services is encouraging all residents, especially Seniors, to be prepared. The team and Emergency Preparedness Ontario are recommending a 2-Step Process.

Step 1 - Make a Plan.

Identify safe locations, including your municipal emergency centres, if you have to evacuate.

Develop a family communication plan, in case local lines are down. Identify one or two out-of-town contacts you and your loved ones can call to connect and share information.

Develop a list of the people who are part of your personal support network, and who can assist - including family members, neighbours, health care and personal support workers.

Have a buddy. Consider giving an extra set of keys to someone you trust, who can come and check on you in an emergency.

At the Legion

The Legion is here for Canada's Vets. There is support available for veterans and their spouses, whether at home, or in a nursing home or care facility. You don't have to be a Legion member to ask for assistance. Now, the definition of "Veteran" has been broadened to include: RCMP officers or any Peace Officer on a special duty operation. Contact Veteran Services Officer Sean Griffin at 705-251-0208.

January 1 - come to the Legion, 115 Back St., for the President's New Year's Eve, 1 to 3 p.m. Refreshments and fellowship.

Note: Friday Night Social time will be cancelled for the holidays, on December 26 and January 2 - although there will be Karaoke on January 2nd at 8 p.m., to welcome in the New Year. The public is welcome to attend. No cover charge.

Euche, on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Registration starts at 1 p.m., play starts at 1:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. Note: Euche is Cancelled on Dec. 27 for the Holidays.

Be ready to evacuate - plan how you will travel, and have your emergency kit ready.

Do you have pets? Often, only certified service animals may be allowed at an emergency shelter. If possible, identify someone who can take care of your pets if you have to leave home.

Do you have limited mobility? Be familiar with evacuation plans, and speak with your building manager, and Fire & Emergency Services, to make special arrangements.

Discuss your plan with family and friends, practice, tune in to the news before and during an emergency - and follow the advice of first responders and officials.

Note: Contact the Town to see if they have a registry for "vulnerable persons", and if you should sign up. Use 911 only when someone needs help immediately, to protect health, safety or property.

Step 2 - Prepare an Emergency Kit

Your kit should have food and water for at least

72 hours (3 days). Include non-perishable foods, a can opener, and 4 litres of water per person, for each day.

Make sure you have a supply of your medications, as well as the following items:

Flashlight; Radio (crank or battery-run) and extra batteries; First Aid kit; Hand sanitizer or moist towelettes; Extra car keys and cash; Whistle (to attract attention if needed), medical equipment (canes and walkers, hearing aid, etc.), prescription eyewear and footwear, dentures, pet food and supplies, and your important documents, ready at hand.

If you need to evacuate, you will need a change of clothing, shoes, sleeping bag or blanket, personal care items (soap, toothpaste, toiletries), and playing cards, books or games.

The key is to gather up the items in an easy-to-carry bag or wheeled suitcase, and keep the kit in a place that is easy to reach. Always keep your cell phones fully charged.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR***



**Gary Baynes
WARD 2 COUNCILLOR**

Best Wishes from Gary

**COMFORT
STRIDE
FOOT
CLINIC**



Holiday Sock Drive!



Please bring in any new or lightly used socks for the Blue Door Shelters. Or in lieu of socks, you can donate \$2 per pair of socks.

It's a great time to give and a very important time to receive.

Comfort Stride and Blue Door Shelters thanks you for your involvement!



www.facebook.com/comfortstride

@comfortstride

Visit us at

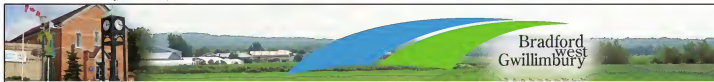
South Simcoe Medical Centre
239 Holland Street West
Bradford ON L3Z 1H9
905-392-7793
comfortstride.ca

Open
Mondays
Wednesdays
Fridays



We prefer socks of all kinds with a special focus on men's and women's socks. We will take children's socks as well.

Season's Greetings



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting dates, times, and agendas are available from the Town's website at www.townbwg.com.

For further information or to request a deputation, please contact the Clerk's Division.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole – Council Chambers, 425 Holland St. W.

• Tues. Jan 20 @ 7:00 p.m., BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Room

UPCOMING BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Library Board

• Mon. Jan 19 @ 7:00 p.m., Boardroom, BWG Library & Cultural Centre, 425 Holland St. W

Committee of Adjustment

• Wed. Jan 28 @ 6:30 p.m., Zima Room, BWG Library & Cultural Centre, 425 Holland St. W

NOTICE

Winter Parking Restrictions lifted for one night only



To encourage responsible celebrations and accommodate travellers, on-street overnight parking will be permitted in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury between the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 1, 2015, otherwise in compliance with By-law 1994-047.

If you drink, don't drive!

NOTICES

*Are you a high school student in South Simcoe?
Do you have a winning business idea?
Looking for a way to showcase your talents?*

We want to hear from you!

The Nottawasaga Futures Business Plan Competition is open to students from Grades 9 to 12 at high schools and alternative learning environments in South Simcoe.

The winner of the Competition will receive a prestigious award at the South Simcoe Business Excellence Awards in April 2015.

For more information, contact Martin Kuzma at 1-800-509-7554 or martin@nottawasaga.com

All business plans are to be submitted to Nottawasaga Futures by February 28th, 2015.



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COMPETITIVE BIDS

RFQ #: Q-14-90C
Request for Quotation
For

Supply and Install Municipal Service Laterals and Associated Works at 128 Barrie Street

Closing: 2:00:00 pm January 15, 2015

Tender documents may be obtained by registering for this opportunity on-line on the Town's Website as follows:

www.townbwg.com/twmsr/purch/compbidopp

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is seeking applications from residents who are interested in helping our community by serving on a committee for the current term of Council. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, a Canadian citizen and a current resident of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

The following positions are available:

- Appeals Committee (5 appointees)
- Municipal Heritage Committee (4 appointees)
- Active Transportation/Recreation Committee (6 appointees)
- Downtown Revitalization Committee (5 appointees)

If you are interested in applying for one of the above, please find further information and application instructions for these positions on the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website at www.townbwg.com under Council & Committees. You can also call or visit the Town's Clerk's office (info at the bottom of this page) or email admin@townbwg.com.

Bradford West Gwillimbury
FAMILY FIRST NIGHT
Presented by
Kaleidoscope of events
Wednesday December 31, 2014
from 8 - 5pm
2014
www.bwgileisurecentre.ca
Free family fun activities, and fireworks!
Contact Lorraine Barillon at 905-776-7625 or email events@townbwg.com for more details.

TOWN MANAGER, CLERK'S & ENGINEERING
100 DISSETT ST. UNIT 4, 7 & 8
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A7
905-776-5366

ENGINEERING
200 MARIE ST. UNIT 2
P.O. BOX 419 L3Z 2A5
905-776-2955

FINANCE
81 BALDWIN ST. E.
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A4
905-776-5303

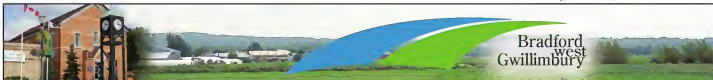
FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES
725 HEDDLE DRIVE DR.
PO BOX 1223 L3Z 2A6
905-776-7311

LEISURE CENTRE
471 WEST PARK AVE.
L3Z 6S3
905-776-PLAY(7623)

LEISURE SERVICES
128 SIMCOE ST.
PO BOX 251 L3Z 2A1
905-776-5359

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
2541 LEXINGTON
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A1
905-776-5369

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.townbwg.com



NOTICES

Help Keep Fire Hydrants and Exit Doors Clear of Snow and Ice Accumulations

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Fire Department would like the assistance from residents and business owners to help keep fire hydrants accessible and clear of snow. During the recent snowfall some hydrants have become blocked by snow. The Bradford West Gwillimbury Fire Department would like to request your help to remove the snow from around hydrants so they are visible and accessible. If you have a hydrant in your front yard, please clear a 3 foot circle around it.

The Ontario Fire Code requires that snow and ice accumulations be removed from exit doors to ensure that these doors are not obstructed from opening in an emergency. The Bradford West Gwillimbury Fire Department would like to remind business owners that they are responsible for ensuring the safety of occupants that are exiting their building by keeping exit doors, exterior passageways, exterior stairs and fire escapes clear of snow and ice accumulation. Frequent routine inspections are recommended.

If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Division at (905) 775-7311, Ext. 4103.



NOV.1 - MAY 1
2 AM - 6 AM

Winter On-Street Parking Restrictions NOW IN EFFECT

BWG By-Law 94-047
Section 6.2(e) as amended

From November 1 to May 1 of each year, parking is prohibited on roads in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. regardless of whether there is snow present/expected.

The downtown crossroads are permitted an extra hour of parking to accommodate businesses that are open later. **Parking is permitted until 3:00 a.m. only on:**

- Holland Street West to Holland Court
- Holland Street East to Nelson Street
- Simcoe Road South to Centre Street
- Barrie Street North to John Street

Violators may be ticketed or towed. Also be advised that vehicles may not park blocking any portion of a sidewalk.



TAKE NOTICE that the Town Administration Centre will be closed for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday, December 24th, 2014 to Friday, January 2nd, 2014. Regular business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. will resume on Friday, January 2nd, 2014.

On behalf of the Members of Council and staff we wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday.



MOTORIZED SNOW VEHICLES

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury By-law 94-080 regulates the operation of motorized snow vehicles within our Municipality.

With the snow season fast approaching, owners must ensure that all motorized snow vehicles have a permit validated by the Ministry of Transportation. In addition, the following regulations must be complied with while operating snow vehicles within the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury:

No person shall:

1. Operate a motorized snow vehicle in the Town during any day between the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. in a residential subdivision;
2. Drive a motorized snow vehicle upon a sidewalk in the Town, except for the purpose of directly crossing such sidewalk;
3. Operate a motorized snow vehicle upon any privately owned property without the express written permission of the owner of the property;
4. Operate a motorized snow vehicle on any Town parklands and properties;
5. Cross a serviced roadway except at an angle of approximately 90° to the direction of the serviced roadway;
6. Drive a motorized snow vehicle at a greater rate of speed than: - 20 kilometers/hour on a highway where the speed limit is 50 kilometers per hour or less; - 50 kilometers/hour on a highway, which is open to motor vehicle traffic, where the speed limit is greater than 50 kilometers per hour.

Set fines for non compliance with By-law 94-080 are \$95.00.

PRIME TIME ICE AVAILABLE

Plan your
Holiday Skate



\$195 +HST

CALL TODAY: 905-775-5359 Ext 5202
Email: fairbarn@townofbwg.com



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is now accepting applications for the following positions:

Day Camp Employment 2015-DC01	Wastewater Co-op 2015-WW01
Events Assistant 2015-EA01	Water Co-op 2015-WC01
Parks Maintenance 2015-PM01	Building Co-op 2015-BD01
Enforcement Co-op 2015-ML01	Engineering Co-op 2015-EN01

A complete description of job duties, qualifications and application instructions for these positions can be found on the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website at www.townofbwg.com under the Employment Opportunities section; or at the Town's Human Resources office as listed below.

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Human Resources Department
100 Dissettle St, Unit 4 Box 100, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2A7
Fax: 905-775-8633 or email hr@townofbwg.com

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will only be used for candidate selection.

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

TOWN MANAGER, CLERK &
ENGINEERING
100 DISSETTLE ST. UNIT 4, 7 & 8
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A7
905-775-5366

ENGINEERING
20 DUNDAS ST. E.
PO BOX 419 L3Z 2A8
905-775-3055

FINANCE
19 HOLLAND ST. E.
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A4
905-775-5303

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES
725 HELLINGBOURNE DR.
PO BOX 1223 L3Z 2N6
905-775-7311

LEISURE CENTRE
471 WEST PARK AVE.
L3Z 1A3
905-775-7439

LEISURE SERVICES
125 SANDS ST.
PO BOX 251 L3Z 2A8
905-775-5359

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
251 HILLVIEW ST.
PO BOX 180 L3Z 2A4
905-775-5369

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.townofbwg.com

Arts & Entertainment



On the Beach, by John Lyman - part of the exhibit, *Morrice and Lyman in the Company of Matisse*, at the McMichael

Morrice and Lyman in the Company of Matisse is a unique exhibit at the McMichael Collection in Kleinburg - a pictorial tour through the sunbathed landscapes of Venice, Paris, North Africa and the West Indies, exoticism and decoration. This is the first exhibit to highlight the connections between Canadian expatriates James Wilson Morrice (1865-1924) and John Lyman (1886-1967), and French Master Henri Matisse (1869-1954) - whom they met in Paris, in the early years of the twentieth century.

More than 130 works by Morrice and Lyman frame a selection of works by Matisse - tracing the artists' paths over more than 5 decades, and exploring their quest to capture shimmering light and vibrant colour.

The exhibition is organized and circulated by the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, with support from the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and National Gallery of Canada, the AK Prakash Foundation, RBC Wealth Management and Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund.

The exhibition will be at the McMichael gallery, 10365 Islington

Ave. in Kleinburg, until January 4, 2015. For more information see mcmichael.com

The current exhibit at Art Unique Gallery & Gifts, located at 4283 - 2nd Line Innisfil, just north of Cookstown, is "Friends through Art" - featuring works by Mary Cellucci, Jennie Clark, Jeanette Lucchese and Karen Wild. On until January 6, 2015; see www.artunique.ca for details.

Blue Heron 5 are holding their annual Exhibition in the South Simcoe Arts Council gallery, at The Gibson Centre, 63 Tupper St. West in Alliston - until January 10. Works by 5 local artists.

The Innisfil Live Music Club offers a great line-up of House Music in Alcona, in the new year - including **Suzie Winnick and Roly Platt** on Saturday, January 31 at 8 p.m., **The Travelling Mabels** on Thursday, April 23 at 8 p.m., and **The Marrieds** on Saturday, June 6 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person, for each show. For more information or tickets see innisfilivemusic.ca



Detailed "Bear Paw" Quilt by Edna Schram was just one of the quilts on display at the Lefroy United Church Bazaar & Quilt Show, December 6.

Books for the Holidays: Coming Ashore

Catherine Gildiner was "born eccentric," she says. "I would climb trees, and when I got to the top, the fire department would have to come, because I couldn't climb down. I didn't see it was a big deal... They come for cats," she told an audience at the Bradford Public Library, on October 23.

It was the days before the diagnosis of "ADHD," and with recent drug scares, her paediatrician was reluctant to prescribe medication. Instead, he told her family, "She has to work full-time." Gildiner was 4.

Her mother subsequently taught her to read, and as an elementary student, she would ride with a driver, Roy, and deliver prescription drugs.

Gildiner says she had 3 different views of reality, growing up in Lewiston, NY: the stark reality of her parents, the world view of her teachers at the Catholic School she attended, and Roy's views.

When she was beaten by a bully at school, her mother suggested inviting the bully to lunch and making friends; her teacher told her to "offer up your suffering as a sacrifice to the souls in purgatory." Roy told her to hit the bully hard, when he wasn't looking.

Her "unusual" childhood was the subject of her first best-selling memoir, "Too Close to the Falls." A "painful" adolescence, including her father's loss of cognition due to a brain tumour, and her involvement with the Black Panthers and the

Civil Rights movement, was the subject of her second book, "After the Falls."

Gildiner has now released her 3rd and final memoir, "Coming Ashore" - about winning a scholarship to Oxford University in England, going on to be a student teacher in Cleveland, Ohio at the time of the riots, and subsequently attending Grad school in Toronto. Although her mother was glad she was going to Canada, where "nothing ever happens," Gildiner ended up sharing a residence with 2 members of the FLQ, and later moving into Rochdale, at the invitation of the co-op's biggest drug dealer. It turns out he used her vast collection of books to pretend that rooms were leased out to students, helping him launder his drug money.

Gildiner's appearance at the Library was sponsored by the BWG Friends of the Library.

She read from her books, answered questions, and shared what it was like to be born "busy, bossy and Irish," in an event that was both funny, and insightful.

A clinical psychologist for 25 years, journalist and author, Gildiner has had people come up and commiserate with her, on what must have been a difficult childhood. In fact, she says, it was good for her self-esteem: "When you deliver drugs, people are happy to see you."

"I had an unusual childhood." Inset: Catherine Gildiner introduced her book, *Coming Ashore*, at the Bradford Library in Oct.

Historic and Haunted Cookstown

It was her own sensitivity that led Amy Woodcock to co-author a book on the ghosts of Cookstown.

A member of the Cookstown Chamber of Commerce, Woodcock was in a Chamber meeting at one of the village stores when she felt "a

presence." She began researching the building - and started turning up stories of ghosts and hauntings.

She was fascinated - and realized that "ghost tourism" could be a tremendous boon for the historic village.

Last year, Woodcock got in touch with local author of "Ghosts of Black Creek Pioneer Village," and founder of the Pioneer Village's "Ghost Walk."



From right, authors Cate Crow and Amy Woodcock inscribe a copy of *Haunted Cookstown* to author and historian, Joan McLean.

book to the local historian.

On October 18, the authors launched their new book, autographing copies and signing up participants for the first two Cookstown Ghost Walks, on October 25 and 30. So, what is the "most haunted" building in Cookstown? "The South Simcoe Theatre... You can feel the energy," says Amy.

"There's also a portal," says Cate. "The ghosts can come and watch the plays."

Haunted Cookstown is available at 3 Sheep Mercantile, The Olde Bulldog Beanyery and the Cookstown Antique Barn, and at the Cookstown public library.

HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY!

From all of us at: The

Bradford Times

We're sending this little note your way,
To wish you a happy holiday
Filled with enough joy and cheer,
To last throughout the coming year
And to our customers and their kin,
Many thanks for dropping in!

Books for the Holidays

Notorious Ontario: Outlaws, Gangsters and Criminals, by Andrew Hind and Maria Da Silva – a fascinating look at some of the robbers and murderers that made headlines in Ontario, in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The book, published by Quagmire Press, includes detailed accounts of the notorious Newton Brothers' adventures north of the border, and home-grown bank robber Lennie Jackson's career – including his daylight robbery of the Imperial Bank in Bradford.

On December 29, Hind and Da Silva will be holding a book launch at Coffee Culture, from 7 – 8 p.m., the former location of the bank, and the site of Jackson's robbery in 1951, when bullets flew on the streets of Bradford. Drop by to meet the authors, and learn more. Hind and Da Silva have also written numerous other books, including *Ghosts of Niagara-on-the-Lake*, *Muskoka: Secrets, Secrets & Summer Fun*, and *Strange Events of Ontario*.

Everything Maple and More Book of Original Recipes: Volume 1. Glassy, fully-illustrated cookbook by Everything Maple founder and creative mastermind, Tracy Moore, uses Everything Maple's gourmet sauces, jellies, dips, "and more" to create easy-to-make, fun dishes, perfect for holiday entertaining. The book is only \$12, available from Everything Maple and more at 800-9th Line, Innisfil, or www.everythingmaple.ca or call 705-294-0811.

Try Moore's variations on *Baked Rice*. Start with an ovenproof dish close to the size of the Brie wheel you are using. Pour your favourite topping over the cheese, heat through (approx. 15 min. at 350 F) and serve with crackers, naan bread or pita.

Savoury: Maple Caramelized Onions, Maple Sweet Onion and Feta, or Maple Mango Chutney.
Traditional: Maple Red Pepper Jelly (Hot or Regular), Maple Cranberries, or Maple Berries Vinaigrette.
Funky: Maple Horseradish Jelly, Maple Pomegranate-Fig, Maple Fig Compote with Sauvignon Blanc, or Maple Mushroom & Olive Tapenade.

Or an appetizer of *Stuffed Mushroom Caps*.

Clean and stem 12 Large mushrooms.

For the filling, mix together:

a half-cup of shredded Black Forest ham

1 Tbsp. Hot Maple Mustard

1 Tbsp. Finely chopped sweet onion

1 Mayo.

Spoon mixture into the caps. Add a slice of Asiago or cheddar on top of each cap, and bake at 400F for 15 to 20 minutes. Serve immediately.

Recipes reprinted with permission of the Author.

Eric Whitehead and Murray Jupe are the co-authors of *Then There Was One: The Ultimate '70s Road Trip*, a journal of their travels across North America during a seminal era. Whitehead, who now lives in Gilford, has continued to travel, capturing his experiences in a series of books, including *South American Odyssey*, *Journey to the Lost City*, and *The Holiday Road*, all of which are available on his website, thatroadtripbook.com.

Most recently, he has written *Helga's Story - escape into the arms of strangers*, a chronicle of his mother-in-law's escape from Nazi Germany, on the last of the KinderTransport Trains. The trains brought unaccompanied Jewish children to the UK, to escape the brutality.

My Mother's Story by J.L. Witterick, is an award-winning book based on the true story of Franciszka Halamaajowa, during the Holocaust - and an international best-seller. The local author gave up a high-powered career to pursue her writing, and the book, originally self-published, is now printed by G.P. Putnam, an imprint of Penguin Books - and available from Amazon, Bantam, iBooks and Barnes & Noble. Sales of Witterick's inspirational book also support a number of charities, including ALS Research, The Indigo Love of Reading Foundation, Mount Sinai Hospital, Girls Helping Girls, and the Barrie Street Cats Rescue.

Tips for easy, elegant entertaining

The pros offer a number of tips, to help make Holiday entertaining a pleasure, instead of a chore.

Plan your menu. Choose items that are easy to make, or that require pre-preparation, but will take only a short time to put together on the day of the party. Never try something for the first time on party night; if you do want to experiment, try the new recipes out on the family well beforehand.

Keep the menu simple. Use only good-quality ingredients - and make sure you have included kid-friendly foods, if children have been invited.

Choose your décor, and your color scheme. Chargers add elegance to any table setting; candles create atmosphere; Christmas ornaments can make attractive and unique centrepieces, piled in a glass bowl or vase. And be creative when it comes to name tags at place settings: use ornaments, silver or gilt-dipped

pine cones, or flowers to display the names of your guests.

Make a schedule, that will help you keep track of when to prep, when to cook, and when to serve.

Have a designated bartender - it makes it easier to keep track how much guests are drinking. Always be prepared to offer choices: a ride home with a designated driver, a taxi, or a bed for the night.

If someone offers to help, say yes. Let them carry in hours of omeurs or toss the salad.

Join the party! It's easy to be a good host or hostess if you can mingle and spend time with your guests.

Preparing ahead of time will make it possible to be part of your own party, and a real host or hostess to your guests.

Photo: Holiday place settings, on gold and silver theme - available at Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery.



Family fun for the Holidays

The Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Hwy. 26 north of Barrie, has been hosting its own "12 Days of Christmas" - with a different theme and craft activity planned every day between Dec. 20 and Jan. 4 (Museum is closed Dec. 25, 26 and Jan. 1).

No registration required - free with admission to the Museum. Dec. 27 - Decorate a "Golden Ring" cookie and play a game of "Quits"; Dec. 28 (1-4:30 p.m.) - Egg decorating; Dec. 29 - Swimming Swan Cookies; Dec. 30 - A Milk Maid will churn butter, to be enjoyed on fresh baked bread; Dec. 31 - create lords and ladies leaping with an old-fashioned Zoetrope, precursor to the Movies; Jan. 2 - make a jumping Jack toy; Jan. 3 - create an "I Spy" ornament; Jan. 4 (1-4:30 p.m.) make a mini drum for your tree.

On December 28, the 16th Annual Christmas Bird Count, sponsored by the York-Simcoe Naturalists' Club, takes place. If you have bird feeders, the Club is hoping they will be full and busy with bird visitors that day. Keep track of your visitors, and be part of the Count. For information, see YorkSimcoeNaturalists.org on Facebook.

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority hosts its second annual Christmas Bird Count for Kids on January 3, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation, 8195-8th Line of E.S. The Count begins with a mini-workshop on bird identification. Birders with the Breton Field Naturalists will then guide families on a bird count hike through the forests of Tiffin. The data collected will be submitted to Bird

Studies Canada, and included in the national Christmas Bird Count for Kids database. Please pre-register by December 30, at www.nvca.on.ca and click on Events & Education. Parental supervision required for young children. A \$5 registration fee per child includes entrance to the Conservation Area, and hot chocolate for kids and accompanying adults.

Tim Hortons First Night Celebration for families, at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Leisure Centre, 471 West Park Ave. in Bradford, on December 31, from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be Leisure Swimming and leisure skating, balloon animals, bouncy castles, hot chocolate and live entertainment, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and a Fireworks Spectacular, at 9 p.m.

see NEW YEAR Page 12

JOSEPH VIVEIROS

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AND INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Merry Christmas,

May You All Have A Safe

And Joyful Holiday!

Someone you know, someone you trust.

P.O. Box #14
Bradford, ON L3Z 2A7
Tel: 905-775-2643
josephviveiros@insurer.com

community listings

MEETINGS

SOUL SURVIVORS: A Cancer Support Community meets the 1st Weds. of the month at Trinity Anglican Church, 7:30 p.m. For cancer survivors and those currently experiencing cancer • support group in a spiritual context, followed by a short contemplative service of healing. Contact Fr. Dan Graves, 905-775-2200.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN (CAPC) PROGRAM NEW DATE: The Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) is held Thursdays 1 to 3 p.m. at the Ontario Early Life Centre, Bradford Satellite, 116 Barrie St. For more information call the CAPC Office at 905-775-4498.

AL-ANON: Meetings Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Holy Marys of Japan Church basement, 167 Essa St. in Bradford. For information, www.al-anon.alteon.org, www/al-anon.org or call 1-888-444-ALANON.

SPEAK FOR SUCCESS TOASTMASTERS: Toastmasters meet on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Tues. of each month upstairs at the new BWG Leisure Centre, 7:9 p.m. For information see www.speakfor-success.org or welcome to the weekly Sunday Club. Club has a weekly Bingo, Mondays 5 p.m. doors open, 6:45 p.m. Bingo begins, at the Lions Hall on Innisfil Beach Rd., Alcona. Refreshments available. For info, call 705-436-1826.

HELP FOR IMMIGRANTS: Bradford Immigrant and Community Services (BICS) located at 11 Holland St. East offers English Language Classes for Newcomers to Canada, Settlement Assistance, Orientation to the Canadian Social System Program, Parenting Workshops, Translation and Interpretation services, Information and referral, advocacy and more. 905-775-3343 or see www.bradfordimmigrant.com

BWG COMMUNITY MEAL: BWG Community Initiatives hosts a hot meal at 5:30 p.m. every Friday evening, at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. All welcome - doors open at 5 p.m. Free.

ST. MICHAEL'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH: 721 Simcoe Rd., Bradford. Fundraising perogies and cabbage rolls sale every Saturday only, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info, call the church 905-551-1651.

WRITERS' CIRCLE: Free Writers' Circle now meets 7-9 p.m. on the 3rd Tues. of the month, at the new Bradford Library, 425 Holland St. All Writers welcomed.

SUPPORT FOR DEPRESSION: Support group meets on Friday evening at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. Support for Depression meets 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. year round, providing an opportunity for those experiencing depression or who have experienced depression to share coping strategies in safe, non-judgmental surroundings, assisted by empathetic facilitators. Organized by the Canadian Mental Health Association - completely anonymous. Enter the door through the Office Door, off Barrie St.

GRANDPARENTS, PARENTING AGAIN: Support group for grandparents with formal

or informal custody of their grandchildren. Mondays at the Ontario Early Years Centre Bradford satellite, 116 Barrie St., 1 to 3 p.m. Child-care available; call the centre at 905-775-3039 ext. 229 on the Friday before.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: Meets at CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors), 448 Holland St. West in Bradford, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, at 10 a.m. An opportunity to get out, meet other caregivers, share stories and strategies, and find new ways to cope. Free, but registration by calling Marc, 1-866-677-9048 ext. 6226 or email M.Terrance@chats.on.ca

FRL, DEC. 26

FREE BOXING DAY DINNER: Bradford United Church, businessman Munawar Chudary and the new Charity, We are the Community, host a free Boxing Day Dinner at Bradford United Church, 5:30 p.m. to celebrate the joy of the festive season, in co-operation with BWG Community Initiatives. At the Church, 66 Barrie St. For information call 905-751-5335 or rewekenn@gmail.com

TUES., DEC. 30

HOLIDAY BLOOD DONOR CLINIC: Canadian Blood Services is holding a Blood Donor Clinic at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2940 - 10 St. in Bradford, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Book an appointment at www.blood.ca or 1-888-2-DONATE.

WEDS., DEC. 31

TIM HORTONS FIRST NIGHT IN BWG: The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury hosts First Night Celebrations at the BWG Leisure Centre, 6 to 9 p.m. Includes Leisure Swim, Leisure Skates, balloon animals, bouncy castles, hot chocolate and live entertainment until 8:30 p.m. indoors - then the action moves outside, where David Cavan Fraser and Special Entertainment, followed by Fireworks!

17TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN COUNTDOWN IN BARRIE: Outside the Barrie City Hall on Collier St., from 7 to midnight. Free skating at the Circle at City Hall, horse-drawn wagon rides, face-painting, food vendors, live performances - and two fireworks displays, at 7:45 p.m. for the

wee ones, and at midnight to welcome the New Year.

TIM HORTONS FIRST NIGHT AT THE MAGNA CENTRE IN NEWMARKET: From 5 to 9 p.m., enjoy free skating and swimming, live entertainment, children's activities and crafts, horse-drawn wagon rides, rides on the Tim Hortons Express Train, finishing up with fireworks at 8 p.m. The Centre is located at 800 Mulock Dr. in Newmarket.

THURS., JAN. 1

DANUBE SWISSERS LEISURE CENTRE NEW YEAR'S LEVEE: The president and executive of the Danube Centre have a Levee at 7:15 Simcoe Rd., from 1 to 3 p.m. on January 1. Free refreshments.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SKATE WITH INNISFIL COUNCIL: The Mayor and Council of the Town of Innisfil invite the community to a free skate at the Innisfil Recreation Complex, 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 1.

LEFROY-BELLE EWART LEGION NEW YEAR'S LEVEE: The President and Executive of the Lefroy-Belle Ewart Legion invites the community to a New Year's Levee, 2 to 5 p.m. Includes a luncheon of Beef on a Bun, Chili, Coleslaw and Refreshments. All welcome.

BRADFORD LEGION PRESIDENT'S LEVEE: At the Royal Canadian Legion, 1 to 3 p.m. Refreshment, fellowship.

SAT., JAN. 3

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT FOR KIDS: At The Trifin Centre for Conservation, 8:15 to 9 a.m. to noon. \$5 per child, pre-register at www.nrca.on.ca under Events and Education, or call 705-424-1479. Includes a mini Bird ID workshop, and a guided Bird Count Hike with the Bretonfield Field Naturalists, plus hot chocolate for all.

Parish Feast Day



Families came out to the Parish Feast Day at St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church (Byzantine Rite), on November 30 - a celebration, but also a fundraiser.

Winter has allowed snow to drift into the entry; and restoration of the crumbling rubble foundation (photo below). Donations are always appreciated.



PLACES OF WORSHIP

Springdale Christian Reformed Church
1466 Sideroad #5, Bradford.
905-775-3731
Sundays 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Pastor Paul VanStrain
www.springdalecnc.net

Newton Robinson United Church
Hwy 27 at Cline, 10 Tecumseh.
Service 9:30 a.m.

Bond Head United Church
Hwy 10 east of Hwy 27
Service 11 a.m.
Sunday School available
905-775-9512

Trinity Anglican Church
62 Church St., Bradford
(Corner of Church & Jenner St.)
Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Sunday School Available
905-775-2200
trinityanglicanchurchbradford.com

St. John's Presbyterian
2940 - 10th Sideroad
(8th Line & Midwestern SR)
905-775-7274
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery provided.
stjohnspresbyterian.ca

St. Catherine of Alexandra Catholic Church
(Byzantine Rite)
10 Heaton St. Bond Head, Bradford East
6:30am (Juniata), 11:30am (English)
905-775-8552
stcatherineofalexandria.ca

St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church
721 Simcoe Rd. Bradford
Ukrainian Services
Liturgy Sunday & Feast Days 10:00 am
Priset 905-715-0105

Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church
18935 Oufers St., R.R. #2 Newmarket
Sundays 10:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sunday School & Nursery with services
Mid-week youth & adult programs
Rev. Richard Bodin
905-775-7291
E: hollandmarshcrt@rogans.com

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
53 Miller Pk., Bradford
905-775-9412
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.

Holy Marys of Japan Catholic Church
167 Essa St. Bradford 905-775-2055
Masses
Sat. 9:00 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m.,
11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Confessions
12 hour before Sunday Mass.

Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St.,
905-775-7288
Service - 10 am
Sunday School Available
www.bradfordunited.com

The Baha'i World Faith
905-551-2219
www.Baha'Org

Bradford Community Church
Mid-week small group
905-775-0888, located on the S.E. corner of Hwy #11 & Conc #9

December 24 - Christmas Eve Service - 7 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
History - 9:30 to 9:45, Children 4-12 yrs.

Riverview Bible Chapel
905-836-1798
#20248 Bathurst (North of Hwy 11)
11:00 am - Family Bible Hour
1:00 pm Afternoon Service
7:30 pm Vespers - Prayer - Bible Study

Greater Life Community Church
The Church in the library
425 Holland St. W. Bradford
Christian Education: 10:30 am
Morning Worship: 11:00 am
(847) 718-7849
www.greaterlifechurch.com

Sports

BWGMHA Rep Results

MAJOR PEEWEE A

Dec. 8, Bradford Major Peewees - 2, Innisfil - 1. Great team play, with goals by Jackson Carruthers from Joseph Magani, and Magani, unassisted. Liam Roberts was solid in net.

Dec. 12, Bradford Bulldogs - 0, Aurora - 0. Caleb Garbe in net led Bulldogs to the shutout and stalemate with their rivals from Aurora.

Dec. 13, East Gwillimburgh - 1,

Bradford Bulldogs - 0. Heartbreaker for the home team; Caleb Garbe was exceptional in net.

Dec. 14, Bradford Bulldogs - 3, East Gwillimburgh - 0. Bulldogs came roaring back to break their scoring slump, and hit 5G. Caleb Garbe added his second shutout in 3 games. Scoring by Jackson Carruthers with 2, Joseph Magani with a single. Assists to Ryan Jensen (2) and Thomas King.

Sign up for Fitness for Breath

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimburgh is partnering with the Ontario Lung Association to offer Fitness for Breath, a specialized maintenance exercise program for people living with COPD or other chronic lung disease, at the BWG Leisure Centre.

COPD - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease - is a respiratory illness that affects one in 9 Ontarians over the age of 35.

The BWG Leisure Centre, at 471 West Park Ave. in Bradford, is one of eight sites in Ontario, selected to provide the Fitness for Breath program, which will include cardiovascular training combined with resistance exercises supervised by qualified fitness staff.

"For people with COPD, regular exercise results in fewer flare-ups and hospitalizations and a better

overall quality of life," said Carole Madeley, director of respiratory health programs with the Ontario Lung Association. "We are proud to be a partner in bringing this vital exercise maintenance program to the people of Bradford West Gwillimburgh and other communities in Ontario."

The program will be available at the Centre on Fridays and Sundays in the new year. For more information or to register visit the Customer Service Desk.

"The BWG Leisure Centre is very excited to be working with the Ontario Lung Association in order to provide this program for this particular local group of individuals," said Fitness Supervisor Stephanie Uren. For more information contact suren@townofbwg.com or call 905-775-7529 ext. 8601.

Bowling for Kids Sake, in 2015

Bowl for Kids Sake is a major fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of York - as well as a lot of fun, at community days in York Region and South Simcoe.

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides mentoring programs for kids from father or mother-absent families, both through one-on-one partnering

February 22 in Georgina, Feb. 28 in Newmarket - and Sunday, March 29 in Bradford, at the Bradford Underground Bowl (formerly Bradford Bowl).

For more information, or to sign up early see www.bbbsy.ca or call 905-726-2149 ext. 308.

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Facebook

Georgian Downs Sno-Pitch Tournament

The Georgian Downs 1-day Sno-Pitch Tournament returns - Saturday, January 17, at Georgian Downs racetrack in Innisfil.

Cost to enter is \$275 per mixed team (each team must have at least 3 female players) - for a guaranteed 3 games, \$10 slot play voucher per player, and prizes for Division winners. Sponsored by Sleemans, Labatt Breweries, and OLG Slots at Georgian Downs.

To enter a team contact Paul, 705-816-2613 or Terry, 647-226-7042. There is room for only 24 teams!

Standard First Aid

Simple First Aid, a partner of the Canadian Red Cross, is offering Standard First Aid Courses at Bradford Alliance Church, 758 Simcoe Rd.:

- Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 3 & 4
- Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 12 & 13
- Thursday and Friday, Jan. 15 & 16
- Thursday and Friday, Jan. 29 & 30

To register, contact Anita Horlings, Instructor/Trainer at 905-775-8024 or email anitalhorling@rogers.com

NEW YEAR'S 15

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A diamond of a prize



Submitted photo

Peter Dykic Jr., owner of Bradford Jewellery & Gems on Holland St. East in Bradford, congratulates Cheryl LeBlond. LeBlond was the winner of Bradford Jewellery & Gems' Facebook Contest - and was presented with a beautiful 0.95 carat diamond and white gold necklace.

For more information see bradfordjewelleryonfacebook on Facebook.

Santa's Corner!



Worth the drive to Bond Head after dark. The home of Art Luke, at 4302 Highway 88 is a masterpiece of Christmas lighting, that flashes and changes colour to music - and has been stopping traffic.

Taking a drive at Christmas-time, to see the Christmas lights, is a time-honoured tradition. And Bond Head resident Art Luke has been part of that tradition for over a decade - decorating his Victorian home at 4302 Highway 88 with literally thousands of lights.

Always a traffic-stopper, this year he has outdone himself, and with help from family members has created an outstanding array of lights that change, shift and flash to Christmas music. The light show starts after dark and continues to 10 p.m. - with an artistry that once again is stopping traffic along 88.

Friends have suggested that anyone who enjoys the nightly light-and-music show should "pay it forward", by making a donation of non-perishable food or cash to the local food bank.



Sinterklaas!

Sinterklaas - Saint Nicholas - and his helper Zwarte Piet (Black Peter) paid their traditional visit to Dutch Treats Specialty Shop in Bradford on November 29, handing out treats to all good little girls and boys. The tradition of the Saint, dressed in a Bishop's Mitre and robe, and his helper comes from the Netherlands.

Santa Claus was at Upper Canada Mall until Dec. 24, visiting with youngsters like a 2 and half year old Zachary, and 6 month old Amelia - but then had to leave, to make sure that presents were delivered to boys and girls around the world. He had plenty of help this year - from the students at Holy Trinity Catholic High School and Bradford District High, the Helping Hand Food Bank, Decorator's Edge and the South Simcoe Police, the Bradford Ribfest Committee - and everyone who supported toy and food drives this year.



Holiday Fun for Families

NEW YEAR from Page 9

to welcome in the New Year. While waiting for the fireworks to begin, David Cavan Fraser and Special K will entertain outside in Sunshine Square.

17th Annual Downtown

Countdown in Barrie takes place on December 31, from 7 p.m. to midnight, outside the Barrie City Hall. Free skating at the circle at City Hall, horse-drawn wagon rides, face-painting, food vendors, and amazing live performances. Fireworks at 7:45 p.m. for the wee ones, and again at midnight to welcome in the new year!



Tim Hortons First Night celebration at Newmarket's Magma Centre, 800 Mulock Drive, from 5 to 9 p.m. on December 31. Free skating and swimming, live entertainment, children's activities, horse-drawn wagon rides and the Tim Hortons Train - finishing up with fireworks at 9 p.m.

Innisfil Community Events Corporation hosts its annual **New Year's Eve Family Skate** at the Innisfil Recreation Complex on December 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. - with food, skating, draws, and fireworks at 7 p.m., in the South Parking lot.

On New Year's Day, January 1, **Innisfil Mayor and Council** invite the community to a free skate at the Innisfil Recreation Complex, from 1 to 3 p.m.

The President and Executive of the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre are hosting a **New Year's Levee** on January 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. Drop by to meet the Executive, enjoy free refreshments and share New Year's wishes.

The Lefroy-Bellie Ewart Legion, on Robinson St. in Belle Ewart is hosting a **New Year's Levee** on January 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. Drop in for fellowship, and a luncheon of Beef on a Bun, Chili, Coleslaw and refreshments.

The Bradford Legion is also hosting a **New Year's Levee** on January 1, from 1 to 3 p.m., hosted by the President. Drop in for refreshments and fellowship.

'Help Bring Lulu Home'

In August of 2014, Sandi and Scott Dickson's 4 year old Shar Pei "Lulu" went missing, while the family was moving from one residence to another. Sandi, the former owner of Bradford Bowl, searched all night for the beloved pet.

Lulu was spotted on Lockhart Rd. in Innisfil, near Sandycove - but ran off into a field, as Sandi and Scott arrived. They searched for 10 days, even calling in Kevin McCormick from Tracker's Edge. The professional dog tracker did pick up Lulu's traces, but the dog wasn't found, and there have been no reports from rescue groups, shelters, veterinary hospitals, the Works Dept. or other possible sources, although Lulu is microchipped.

Enter Debbie Sobala Luiting. On Sept. 4, she started a Facebook page, "Help Bring Lulu Home", and even offered a \$1200 reward. The group has grown to more than 344, from across Ontario, Canada and even the U.S. - and has been diligent in putting up posters, sending out flyers, checking ads posted on Kijiji and Craig's list. They have contacted 52 vets, 71 doggie daycares, dog groomers, Lost & Found Groups - but still no luck in finding Lulu.

There have been possible sightings. A young couple was seen loading a Shar Pei into a white van/SUV; a young couple was spotted walking a Shar Pei matching Lulu's description (fawn-coloured, with a black snout) - but no one has come forward to return the dog. And for Sandi and Scott, there will be no Christmas without Lulu.

Anyone with information, or wishing to learn more, can call Debbie, 905-715-9292 or Sandi, 905-716-2335.

Brothers To The End supporting Sisters



Photo and story by Miriam King, Bradford Times

Demonstrating the spirit of giving all year round - Brothers To The End Motorcycle Club raises funds and collects used clothing to assist organizations that include My Sister's Place shelter for abused women and their children.

Brothers To The End is a small motorcycle club - at the moment, it has only seven members - but it has a huge heart.

The Brothers, founded in 2012, hold a weekly Show and Shine, Thursdays at Coffee Time in Alcona during the summer months, as well as Charity draws, and an annual Charity Ride, raising funds for a wide range of causes.

"To date, our club has donated over \$30,000 to different charities," said President Lyndon "Brew" Brewer, including a recent donation of \$1,400 to Special Olympics in Barrie.

On October 19, Brothers To The End presented \$1,200 and a truckload of new and used clothing to My Sister's Place in Alliston, a shelter for abused women and their children.

The Brothers have the full support and assistance of their wives, girlfriends and daughters, in their efforts. "They were all involved in this," said Brewer - and in helping to fight some of the stereotypes that surround motorcycle clubs.

"It's hard sometimes," he admitted, but once people stop by, and learn where the money is going, "it sheds a totally different light on it."

Accepting the donation were Paula Thompson, and Executive Director of My Sister's Place Angela Boyle.

"We're partners. We're a team," said Boyle of the Club. "We just appreciate it so much."

Nature's News!

Scanlon Management Plan

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority has released a draft of its new Management Plan for Scanlon Creek Conservation Area, based on input received from the public earlier this year. The 2015 Draft Plan proposes:

- Upgrades to the Scanlon Arboretum, already underway.
- A new boardwalk through the restored wetland.
- Expansion of the handicapped-accessible trail.
- An updated trail map, with additional detail.
- Interpretive signage and self-

guided trail opportunities.
• More opportunities for volunteers to get involved.
The draft Management Plan is posted at www.LSRCA.on.ca/PlanScanlon, and will be available for review until December 31. Comments can be submitted to Kate Lillie, Land

Management Technician at k.lillie@LSRCA.on.ca or 905-895-1281 ext. 527.

York Simcoe Naturalists
York-Simcoe Naturalists meet monthly at River Drive Park Community Centre, 20 Oak Ave in River drive Park (north of Holland

Landing, off the Queensville Sideroad). Meetings start at 7:30 p.m.; lug-a-mug for refreshments. Tues, January 13 - Ken Vognan talks about the Biodiversity of Costa Rica. For more information see YorkSimcoeNaturalists.org Facebook.com

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In Memoriam In Memoriam

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Dear Dad,
My KNIGHT in SHINING ARMOUR - A CHARACTER BUILDER, too understanding, KIND & LOVING - "The Greatest Dad" - That's you all of Greats! May you have a "Blessed Christmas" Dad! We love you Dad & Miss you so much - that just isn't even funny any more!
Love xoxo - Daddy's Girl, Susan & Steve Makrazis



Continuing to R.I.D.E.

The Festive Season R.I.D.E. (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) Campaign continues to January 2. On Dec. 17-18, South Simcoe Police officers set up 3 checkpoints in Bradford, and demanded a total of 6 roadside screening tests. Just after 9 p.m. on Dec. 17, a vehicle was stopped on Canal Rd., and the odor of alcohol detected on the male driver's breath. A roadside test registered a FAIL, and the man was returned to the station for further testing. He was charged with Over .080, his vehicle was impounded for 7 days, his licence suspended for 90 days, and he was released with a court date in Jan. Just after midnight on Dec. 18, a 25 year old male driver from Bradford also registered a FAIL on a roadside screening device - and also ended up being charged with Over .080, his vehicle impounded, and his licence suspended for 90 days. Later on the 18th, officers set up RIDE checks in Innisfil, and administered 10 roadside screening tests. Around 5:30 p.m., police stopped a 32 year old Innisfil male and detected an odor of alcohol on his breath. A roadside test resulted in a WARN, and a 3-day licence suspension - when police discovered that the man's licence was already suspended. He was charged with Drive Under Suspension, and faces a Justice of the Peace and a fine, in January. And just before midnight on the 18th, police stopped a vehicle in Alcona - and were overwhelmed by the odor of marijuana coming from the car. A 30 year old Innisfil man was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance. A reminder: consumption of drugs - prescription or illicit - can impair your ability to operate a motor vehicle, and may result in a charge of impaired Driving.

In addition to the checkpoints officers on regular patrol continue to watch for impaired and aggressive drivers - and residents play their role, by participating in the Safe Roads. Your Call campaign, and calling 911 to report suspected impaired drivers.

CO detectors now mandatory

If you have a home with a fuel-burning appliance, or an attached garage, you are now required to have a working Carbon Monoxide alarm adjacent to any sleeping area. Carbon monoxide, or CO, is known as the "silent killer" - an invisible, odorless and tasteless gas that is the by-product of the incomplete combustion of propane, gasoline, natural gas, heating oil or wood.

CO can produce flu-like symptoms, such as headaches, nausea, dizziness, confusion, and drowsiness - at high enough levels, leading to loss of consciousness, and even death. If your CO detector sounds, and you have any of the symptoms of CO poisoning, leave the home immediately and call 911 from outside the building. If no one shows any symptoms, first check to see if the battery needs replacing.

*In Ontario, more than 80% of injuries and deaths from CO occur in the home," says Fire Chief Kevin Gallant. "We want to make sure everyone is safe from CO. Install CO alarms, and do everything you can to prevent CO in your home in the first place" - which includes the annual inspection of all fuel-burning appliances in the home, ensuring that outside vents are not blocked, and never using portable fuel-burning appliances, like barbecues and generators, inside the home.

The Ontario Fire Code was amended on October 15, 2014, to make CO alarms mandatory. It was in December of 2013, that the Ontario Legislature passed Bill 77, the Hawkins-Gignac Act - named after OPP Constable Laurie Hawkins, who died of CO poisoning, along with her husband and two children, in 2008.

Single family home owners, and owners of residential buildings with 6 suites or less, have until April 15, 2015 to comply with the new law. Owners of residential buildings with more than 6 suites have until October 15, 2015.

Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals, or \$100,000 for corporations.

BWG Council meets

The next meeting of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council takes place Tues., January 20, at 7 p.m.

Domestic Assault

Officers were called to a Bradford home for a domestic assault on Dec. 18, at 10:30 a.m. - and met a man who had fled the home, with numerous visible injuries.

Police located and arrested an 18 year old woman inside the home; she was subsequently charged with Domestic Assault, Domestic Assault with a Weapon, and Domestic Mischief under \$5000. The woman was released with a court date in January, and conditions that included staying away from the victim; she will reside in Keswick until the court. The victim did not require medical attention.

Domestic violence is a continuing problem in this and other communities. South Simcoe Police will respond to complaints 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - and officers and victim support staff are available to provide assistance and advice to anyone in an abusive relationship, male or female. Call 905-775-3311.

Weapons charges

South Simcoe Police were called to a fight at an apartment on Innisfil Beach Rd. in Alcona. When they arrived, they detected the smell of pepper spray in a hallway. A suspect was identified but had fled the scene before officers arrived. An arrest warrant was obtained, and the suspect surrendered to police on Dec. 17. A 26 year old Innisfil male was charged with Assault with a Weapon, Weapons Dangerous, Possession of a Prohibited Weapon and Possession of a Weapon contrary to a Court Order. The victim did not require hospital treatment.

Assault Police

Around 7:50 a.m. on Dec. 15, a South Simcoe Police officer responded to a home in Bradford, after a woman called to report that her son had assaulted her and another son, and was out of control. When the officers arrived, the situation appeared to be calm. He spoke with the victims, while awaiting back-up - then, without warning, the suspect rushed the officer and a struggle ensued. The officer was knocked to the ground, dislodging his helmet. The suspect began to hit the officer with the baton, and put him in a choke hold. A family member assisted the officer, who was able to break away from the suspect - but the struggle continued, with the arrival of a second officer. A Conducted Energy Weapon (Taser) was used to bring the suspect under control.

A 20 year old Bradford man was taken to hospital, and held under the Mental Health Act. He faces 2 counts of Assault, Assault Police, Assault with a Weapon, and Assault with intent to resist arrest. The officer was treated for minor injuries and released.

Off for Winter Break!

December 19 was the last day of classes before the Winter Break - and schools across Bradford West Gwillimbury celebrated the festive season, with Holiday Concerts, Winter Festivals, and Special Assemblies - where students were recognized for demonstrating positive Character Traits, or sang Christmas Carols while donning Santa hats, Elf ears and Reindeer antlers.

But at many public schools, there was no mention of Christmas, or Hanukkah, Kwanza or Diwali in the "Winter Concerts" - opting instead for a secular inclusivity, that focused on working together, sharing and inspiring.

There may have been Elves guiding the audience to their places at Fieldcrest Elementary School's Primary Division concert on Dec. 18, but the theme was "We Can Move the World," all about thinking, doing and helping each other - as scores of primary students sang for a standing-room-only audience of parents, siblings and family members. And at Chris Hadfield Public School, the theme of the school's Holiday celebration was "Winterfest" - held indoors on Dec. 18, after the severe

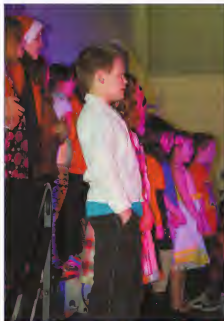
weather a week earlier created uncertainty.

Kids made "snow forts" using plastic cups, had "snowball" fights with ping pong balls, made snowflakes and Snowman crafts, and watched the movie "Ice Age," while enjoying hot chocolate and candy canes served up by the School Council and parent volunteers. "It was all snow-related," said organizer Sonia Leggett - but warmer than spending the day outside.

There was some grumbling from parents, about the lack of religious content, but the kids didn't mind. They knew they'd soon be out of school and heading home, and celebrating their faith with their families at this most festive season.

At right, Primary Division students sing at Fieldcrest Elementary School's Dec. 18 Holiday Concert. Below right: Craft assembly and Pajama Day at Fred C. Cook Elementary School, Dec. 19 - on the theme, Inclusiveness.

Below, the Grade 1 class of Mrs. Beveridge had fun making snowflakes and Snowman crafts at Chris Hadfield Public School's Winterfest, Dec. 18 - with help from co-op student Jennifer.



Popsicle-Stick Bridges and Robot Arms, in PEO challenge

Simcoe County District School Board students in Grades 5 through 8 are invited to participate in the 5th annual Model-Building and Testing competition, held in conjunction with National Engineering Month, by Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO)-Simcoe Muskoka Chapter, and the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT), Georgian Bay Chapter.

Students will build popsicle stick bridges, catapults and robotic arms, based on the guidelines provided by PEO and OACETT. Students can also build and test small walking robots and crystal set radios during the event, with guidance from local engineers and technologists - and try out the

Raspberry Pi, a \$35 credit card-sized computer that teaches basic coding. Students can work individually, or in teams of 2 to 4.

This year, the competition will take place at Innisdale Secondary School, 95 Lonsdale Avenue in Barrie, on March 7. On Competition Day, students will bring in their bridges, catapults, and robotic arms for assessment based on a short presentation, design creativity and aesthetics, quality of construction, and functionality - does it work?

Bridge strength will be tested on the bridge-breaking machines; catapults on their ability to hit a target; and robotic arms on their ability to grab and lift an object.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on March 7, judging at 9:30 a.m. The

Awards take place at 3 p.m.

Model builders (through their parents) can pre-register by emailing register.simcoeomuskoka@gmail.com, with their team name, number of members, and which model competitions they plan to enter.

For more information, contact Len Dunkley, VP at Allandale Heights Public School, 705-728-3601.



Ontario Early Years

The Ontario Early Years Centre-Bradford Satellite, located in the BWG Child & Family Services Building at 118 Barrie St., offers free programs and parenting resources to families with pre-schoolers. For information, please see www.simcoecommunityservices.ca and click on the Preschool Services button, or call 905-775-3038 ext. 229.

Note: The Centre is now closed for the Holidays, reopening on Jan. 5.

Life with Baby - a 10-week program for first-time parents and their babies under 1 months of age, begins Tuesday, January 13 at 1:30 p.m. Pre-register.

How To Talk So Kids Will Listen - And Listen So Kids Will Talk. A 6-week program, Thursdays, Jan. 15-Feb. 19, 1-3 p.m., held in partnership with the BWG Public Library, in the Zima Room. Please pre-register. Child Care will not be available.

Little Chefs in the Kitchen, every Saturday morning beginning January 10, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. A 4-week program that includes a story, craft and snack. Pre-register.

Grandparents Parenting Again Support Group meets Mondays at the Centre, from 1 to 3 p.m. - a warm, supportive environment for grandparents with formal or informal custody of their grandchildren.

Closed for the holidays

The CAPC Program for pregnant and parenting Youth up to the age of 26, is closed for the Holidays, and reopens on Thursday, January 8.

The Mother Care/Next Step Program for pregnant and parenting Women with children up to 24 months old is closed for the Holidays and reopens on Wednesday, January 7. Both programs are held at 118 Barrie St., at the Bradford Satellite of the Ontario Early Years Centre. For more information, call 905-775-1498. All programs are free, and confidential.

French as 2nd Language

The Simcoe County District School Board is offering French Immersion and Extended French as Second Language at selected schools throughout the County. FI is available for students beginning in Grade 1; EFSL begins in Grade 5 and is offered at 10 elementary schools and 8 secondary schools. Information sessions and registration will be held in January.

W. H. Day Elementary School on Maplegrove in Bradford will be hosting an Information session for parents on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m.

French Immersion application forms will be available online at www.scdsb.on.ca under Programs, French as Second Language on January 19 and 20 only. Extended French as Second Language forms will be online January 21 and 22. Those who do not have home internet access should contact their school for assistance.